

EMILY SULLIVAN

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Department of Philosophy
Edinburgh Futures Institute

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AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

AOS: Philosophy of Science, Epistemology, Philosophy and Ethics of AI

AOC: Ethics, History of Philosophy

RECENT EMPLOYMENT

University of Edinburgh 2025-present
Senior Lecturer
Department of Philosophy; Edinburgh Futures Institute

Utrecht University
Associate Professor 2024 – 2025
Assistant Professor 2023 – 2024
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

EDUCATION

Fordham University, Bronx, New York
Ph.D., Philosophy, 2016

Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, New York
B.A., Liberal Arts: concentration in Philosophy, Politics, Economics, 2008

SELECTED GRANTS AND PRIZES

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| 2025 | Herbert A. Simon Award for outstanding research in computation and philosophy
International Association of Computation and Philosophy (IACAP) |
| 2024 | ERC Starting Grant: European research council (€1,500,000)
<i>Machine learning in science and society: A Dangerous Toy?</i> |
| 2023 | Honorable Mention 2022 Popper Prize
“Understanding from Machine learning Models.” <i>British Journal for the Philosophy of Science</i> . |
| 2020 | NWO VENI Grant; Dutch Research Council (€250,000) <i>Explain Yourself! The scope of understanding and explanation from machine learning models</i>
Personal research grant. Acceptance rate < 14%. |

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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| 2025 | “Value encroachment on scientific understanding and discovery” <i>Philosophical Studies</i> , 1-21. |
| 2025 | “Large physics models: towards a collaborative approach with large language models and foundation models.” <i>The European Physical Journal C</i> , 85(9), p.1066. --- Barman, K.G., Caron, S., Sullivan, E., de Regt, H.W., de Austri, R.R., Boon, M., Färber, M., Fröse, S., Golling, T., Lopez, L.G. and Hasibi, F. |
| 2024 | “SIDEs: Separating Idealization from Deceptive ‘Explanations’ in xAI” In <i>The 2024</i> |

ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT' 24)

- 2024 "Reliability and Machine Learning" *Philosophy Compass* 9(5), e12974. --- Grote., T, Genin, K., and Sullivan, E.
- 2024 "Do Machine Learning Models Represent their Targets?" *Philosophy of Science* 91 (5), 1445-1455.
- 2024 "Motivated Numeracy and Active Reasoning in a Western European Sample" *Behavioral Public Policy* 8 (1), 24-46 --- Connor, P., Sullivan, E., Alfano, M., Tintarev, N.,
- 2022 "Understanding from Machine learning Models." *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. 73(1): 109–133. **Honorable Mention 2022 Popper Prize**
- 2022 "Inductive Risk, Understanding, and Opaque Machine Learning Models" *Philosophy of Science*, 1-13.
- 2022 "From Explanation to Recommendation: Ethical Standards for Algorithmic Recourse." *Proceedings of the 2022 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society*. pp 712–722. --- Sullivan, E. and Verreault-Julien., P.
- 2021 "Model Explanation Versus Model-Induced Explanation" *Foundations of Science* 24:4, p.104-79 --- Lawler, I., and Sullivan, E.
- 2020 "Vulnerability in Social Epistemic Networks?" *International Journal for Philosophical Studies* 28(5): 731-753. --- Sullivan, E., Sondag, M., Rutter, I., Meulemans, W., Cunningham, S., Speckmann, B., & Alfano, M. **Winner 2019 PeriTiA prize**
- 2020 "Can Real Social Epistemic Networks Deliver the Wisdom of Crowds?" *Oxford Studies in Experimental Philosophy, Volume 3*. Eds Tania Lombrozo, Joshua Knobe, and Shaun Nichols. Oxford University Press. --- Sullivan, E., Sondag, M., Rutter, I., Meulemans, W., Cunningham, S., Speckmann, B., & Alfano, M.
- 2019 "Idealizations and Understanding: Much Ado About Nothing?" *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 97(4), pp. 673-689. --- Sullivan, E., and Khalifa, K.

SELECTED SERVICE

SERVICE DEPARTMENT:

University of Edinburgh

2025 – Co-director for Centre for Technomoral Futures (Edinburgh Futures Institute)

2025 - Acting Co-Chair AI and Data Ethics Advisory Board

SERVICE PROFESSION:

2025 – present Editorial Board *Philosophical Quarterly*

2023 – present Associate Editor for *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (BJPS)

2021– 2023 Associate Editor for *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (EJPS)